

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199429

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S/S-S:JJACOBSON (S/S 7613948)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 199429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, CO

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT FROM COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT ALFONSO LOPEZ

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF JULY 3
COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM FROM PRESIDENT ALFONSO LOPEZ TO THE
PRESIDENT READS QUOTE TODAY YOUR GREAT NATION IS CELE-
BRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPEND-
ENCE. IN THAT DOCUMENT ONE OF YOUR FOUNDING FATHERS,
THOMAS JEFFERSON, WITH THE INTUITION OF GENIUS, EXPRESSED
IN ADMIRABLE FORM THE PRINCIPLES WHICH CONSTITUTE THE VERY
FOUNDATION OF YOUR NATION. THOSE PRINCIPLES HAVE SINCE THEN
BEEN FOLLOWED WITHOUT INTERRUPTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE
UNITED STATES, WHOSE SPLENDID PAGES SPEAK OF LIBERTY AND
DEMOCRACY THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD WHICH YOU ARE NOW COMMEMO-
RATING, SURROUNDED BY THE ESTEEM OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. ON
THIS OCCASION, AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA,
I WISH TO RECALL TO MIND THOSE OF YOUR COMPATRIOTS WHO IN
THE PAST HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MY COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT, AND
TO EXPRESS MY FRIENDSHIP TO THOSE NOW JOINED WITH US IN THE
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SAME ENDEAVOR, AND I CONVEY THESE SAME SENTIMENTS TO YOU ON

BEHALF OF THE COLOMBIAN PEOPLE AND IN MY OWN NAME, WITH MY
SINCERE WISHES FOR THE HAPPINESS AND WELL-BEING OF YOUR

NATION AND YOUR PEOPLE. ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN, PRESIDENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA UNQUOTE.

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE
DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENT QUOTE DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: ON
BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I THANK YOU
FOR YOUR MOST WELCOME MESSAGE OF GOOD WISHES ON THE
COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S
INDEPENDENCE. AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY, THE UNITED
STATES REDEDICATES ITSELF IN WORD AND DEED TO THE PRINCIPLES
OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY. WE DO SO
WITH THE ANTICIPATION AND CONFIDENCE THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN
OUR COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. SINCERELY,
GERALD R. FORD. UNQUOTE.

3. NO RELEASE INTENDED, BUT NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT
WISHES TO DO SO.

ROBINSON

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NNN

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